

Romance blooms tonight at Judy Bayley Theatre



A scene from act one of "Romance, Romance" entitled "The Little Comedy." Pictured are Andy Rogow and Linda Pierson.

by Gary Puckett

Opening tonight at the Judy Bayley Theatre will be the first West Coast (almost) production of "Romance, Romance," a highly acclaimed and thoroughly amiable musical comedy. The first non-professional rights to production of this play were awarded to UNLV in late October. The play is actually two one-act comedies based on stories by Arthur Schnitzler and Jules Renard.

Fun is the main emphasis of "Romance, Romance." This play was described by the New York Times as "sparkling" and Edith Oliver, of *New Yorker* magazine declared that in both acts "gaiety prevails."

The play is directed by UNLV's Robert Brewer who is very much enamored with it.

"This really is a show for students, one to bring your girlfriend or boyfriend to," Brewer said. He added in a jocular manner, "It's about relationships, infidelity, and sex—everything that makes

life worth living."

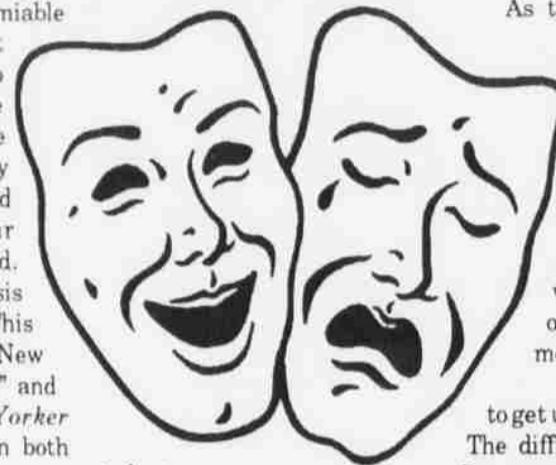
Brewer pointed out that most of the plays at UNLV do well at the box, but that most attending are not students. This is in spite of the fact that these plays are free to

Michelle Guillot. Much of the costuming is elaborate since the first act takes place in Vienna around the turn of the century. The backdrop for the set is a large copy of Gustav Klimt's "The Kiss."

As the writer covering this preview, I was fortunate to be able to view a portion of the second act while the people acting (and singing) were working with the orchestra. This is important since rehearsals were done previously with only piano accompaniment.

"The actors need a chance to get used to the orchestration. The difficulty is in the timing," Brewer said. From my observation this seemed difficult indeed. The professional approach employed here by both the band and the actors was impressive, but not nearly as much as the energetic enthusiasm displayed by both. Obviously these people love their work, and certainly the finished product will exhibit this love.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Jan. 31 through Feb. 2 and also at 8 p.m. Feb. 6 through 9. In addition, there will be matinees at 2 p.m. Feb. 3 and 10. Tickets are \$7 for general admission, with special discounts for seniors, handicapped, military and staff. The box office is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. The phone number for the Performing Arts Box Office is 739-3801.



students.

However, an enormous amount of effort has been put into "Romance, Romance", most of which has been supplied by students. The cast of four was selected from approximately 75 who auditioned. Andy Rogow will play the roles of Alfred Von Wilmers in the first act and Sam in the second. Morry Campbell will play "Him" in the first act and Lenny in the second. Linda Pierson will play the demimondaine in the first act and Monica in the second, and Melissa Supera will play "Her" and Barb. These students have been working on this play since Dec. 9, through the entire semester break, and through a traveling case of bronchitis.

In addition, students do much of the work on costumes and on the set. These are designed by artist

Reba McEntire Returns to Caesar's Palace

Vince Gill's opening act is a smash with Country fans

By Brad Palmer

Laser lights, smoke, and eerie music highlighted the entrance of Reba McEntire's long-awaited return to Caesar's Palace last month.

Reba opened with the energetic "Love Will Find its Way to You," from the gold LP "The Last One to Know."

Another energetic number, "Can't Even Get the Blues," featured a sax solo, and was the audience pleaser of the show. Continuing her feature of songs from her early years was the sassy "Somebody Should Leave," included on her platinum "Greatest Hits" album.

Also featured from her "Greatest Hits" album was "One Promise Too Late," which showed her band and backup singers off.

"I'm the type of person that watches aerobics on television. I'm the one in the corner. My son Shelby helped me get in shape," exclaims Reba.

Audience participation ensued during "Let the Music lift You Up," which has a gospel flavor, and the audience was encouraged to clap and sing along.

The next part of the show featured the romantic song "Whoever's In New England."

This blended into a medley of her most requested songs including: "How Blue," (which featured an acapella ending), and her favorite ballads "You're the First Time I've Thought About Leaving," "New Fool at an Old Game," "I Know How He Feels," and "What in the World Am I Gonna Do About You."

"Walk On" displayed vibrant vocals, and featured her band again.

The title track from her latest LP, "Rumor Has It," which recently went gold, continued her string of recent hits. "Respect," also another audience pleaser, featured a gospel and R&B flavor. "Little Rock"

Then she left the stage for a brief recess and came back out to do a variety of cover songs. "Fancy," an old Bobbie Gentry tune, was performed poetically. The old Everly Brothers tune, "Cathy's Clown," featured strong vocals, and a quick lead in to her Grammy Nominated "You Lie," for which she said her goodbyes at the closing of the song. A standing ovation and strong vocals brought her back to do "Sweet Dreams," an old Patsy Cline tune, with which she used harmony to personify the song.

Vince Gill opened her show at Caesar's Palace for his first time in Las Vegas with "Everybody's Sweetheart," featuring a strong opening instrumental. Included throughout the 30-minute set was "Cinderella," from his early RCA days and his "Best Of" LP.

In closing, he featured songs from his MCA release "When I Call Your Name." Included were "Never Knew Lonely," "Ridin' the Road," and the 1989 Country Music Association Single of the Year and Grammy-nominated title track. Before leaving the set he did "Oklahoma Borderline," a fast-paced song including a guitar solo and a fiddle solo. Vince Gill thanked fans for a successful year and his first Las Vegas appearance.



Reba McEntire

featured catchy and energetic facial expressions and a stairway where she walked during parts of the song.

"Oklahoma Swing," which opened the last part of her show featured Vince Gill, and a local champion square dance couple that showed the audience what the dance was.

Facts du jour

Winter squashes: Rich and poor

The vitamin content of winter squashes varies enormously.

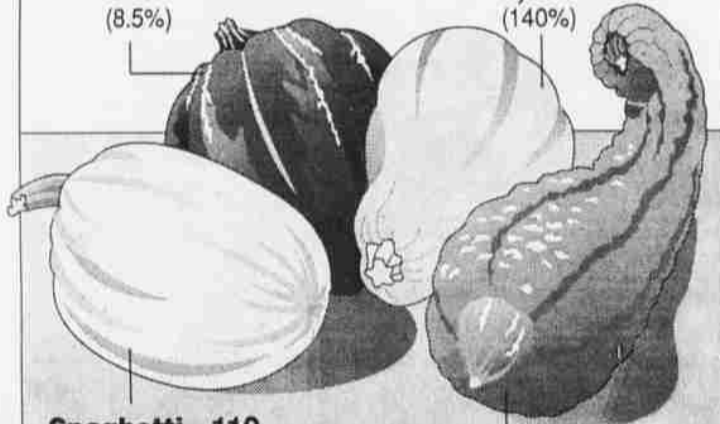
Vitamin A* in a baked 3.5 oz. serving and percent of recommended daily allowance of Vitamin A

Acorn squash

428 (8.5%)

Butternut squash

7,000 (140%)



Spaghetti squash 110 (2%)

Hubbard squash 6,035 (120%)

* In International Units (IU)

SOURCE: "The Complete Book of Food," by Carol Ann Rinzler



A friendly bird greets students on campus as Spring approaches. photo by Dustin Bermingham